

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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FOL SENT ACTION SECSTATE WASHDC JUNE 14, 1973 FROM PEKING
REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CGEN, ACOM, CH

SUBJ: PRC PROPOSAL ON DIPLOMATIC COURIERS

1. FOLLOWING PROPOSAL ON COURIER ACCOMPANIED AND UNACCOMPANIED
DIPLOMATIC POUCH SERVICE DELIVERED BY PRC MFA DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF
CONSULAR OFFICE T' IEN P' ING (3944, 1627) TO HOLDRIDGE ON
14 JUNE 1973. (MFA TRANSLATION).

2. QUOTE. REPLY TO "COURIER ACCOMPANIED AND UNACCOMPANIED
DIPLOMATIC POUCH SERVICE" DATED APRIL 13, 1973

(1) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLE OF RECIPROCITY AND IN THE
SPIRIT OF MUTUAL ASSISTANCE,

1. EACH SIDE SHALL ISSUE MULTIPLE ENTRY/ EXIT VISAS VALID FOR A
TERM OF SIX MONTHS TO TWENTY- FIVE DIPLOMATIC COURIERS OF THE
OTHER SIDE. VISAS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE OTHER SIDE'S
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (DEPARTMENT OF STATE), LIAISON
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OFFICE OR DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS DESIGNATED BY IT (THE CHINESE SIDE DESIGNATES THE EMBASSIES OF THE PEOPLE' S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN FRANCE, JAPAN, THE KINGDOM OF LAOS, CANADA AND MEXICO.);

2. FOR EVERY SIX MONTHS, EACH SIDE MAY SUBMIT THE NAMES OF TWENTY- FIVE DIPLOMATIC COURIERS, AT ONE TIME OR IN BATCHES AS CONDITIONS CALL FOR. VISAS SHOULD BE GRANTED BY THE OTHER SIDE WITHIN A WEEK OF RECEIVING A LIST. IN EXCEPTIONAL CASES, EACH SIDE SHOULD ACCORD THE OTHER CONVENIENCE BY THE PROMPT ISSUANCE OF VISAS UPON RECEIPT OF PASSPORTS;

3. PORTS OF ENTRY/ EXIT PERMITTED TO DIPLOMATIC COURIERS OF THE OTHER SIDE AS SPECIFIED IN THE VISAS SHOULD INCLUDE ALL THE PORTS OF ENTRY/ EXIT ALLOWED TO FOREIGNERS.

(II) THE PEOPLE' S REPUBLIC OF CHINA DOES NOT HAVE AT PRESENT THE PRACTICE OF UNACCOMPANIED DIPLOMATIC POUCH SERVICE. THIS QUESTION MAY BE STUDIED AND DISCUSSED BY THE TWO SIDES AS THE SITUATION DEVELOPS IN THE FUTURE.

(III) OWING TO DIFFERENT CONDITIONS IN THE TWO COUNTRIES, THEIR APPROACHES DIFFER SOMEWHAT IN REGARD TO DETAIL OF OTHER MATTERS CONCERNING COURIER ACCOMPANIED DIPLOMATIC POUCH SERVICE, SUCH AS DOCUMENTS PROVIDED TO DIPLOMATIC COURIERS, DIPLOMATIC POUCHES, BASIC PROCEDURES, ETC. HOWEVER, THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE PEOPLE' S REPUBLIC OF CHINA BELIEVES THAT IN LINE WITH INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE AND THE PRINCIPLE OF RECIPROCITY AND UNDER HOST COUNTRY PROTECTION FOR BOTH COURIERS AND POUCHES, THE DIPLOMATIC COURIERS OF THE TWO SIDES CAN FULFILL THEIR DUTIES SUCCESSFULLY.

JUNE 14, 1973. END QUOTE

3. COMMENT: USLO CONSIDERS THIS PROPOSAL AN INDICATION OF EXTREMELY FORTHCOMING ATTITUDE ON CONSULAR MATTERS. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR EARLY REPLY. SEPTTEL WILL REPORT EQUALLY FORTHCOMING MFA PROPOSAL ON GENERAL APPROACH TO HANDLING OF CONSULAR SERVICES. BRUCE UNQUOTE ROGERS

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